

munion of the body and blood of Christ, must be loyally administered as delivered by Christ Jesus and practiced by the Primitive church. With the multiplied number of "divine healers" of our day, when one cries, lo here, and another lo here, until divine healing is looked upon by many as an art or business largely practiced for notoriety and gain, the Brethren church must teach on this subject as the inspired apostle James teaches "Is any sick among you let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him." With the ever increasing number of oath-bound, labor, fraternal and secret societies, which are drawing into their various oath-bound circles men of every rank and station, belief and unbelief, it becomes the duty of the church, zealously to cry with the words of the Master, "I say unto you swear not at all" and with the inspired apostle where he says "But above all things my brethren swear not." "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." Amidst the blare of bugle, the roll of drum and the call to arms for carnal warfare, the Brethren church must diligently advocate her peace principles and her conscientious tenets in regard to taking up arms and engaging in carnal warfare, ever remembering that her great head is the Prince of Peace who says, "My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight." "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty thru God to the pulling down of strong holds." "From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence even of your lusts that war in your members?"

Again the church's voice must be heard with no uncertain sound in condemnation against the prevalence of divorcement without scriptural cause, this hydra headed monster of our lax civil laws is rapidly sapping the chastity out of the home and filling the land with adulterers. "Whosoever shall put away his wife saving for the cause of fornication causes her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery."

When satan planed the fall of the human family in the execution of that plan, he came to our first parents in the form of a serpent. To day satan in his attempt to overthrow the nations of the earth presents himself among us in our own fair land, in the disencified phases of the alcoholic liquor traffic and as we as individuals by our ballot are the nation and the law makers thereof we dare not as Christians, without committing sin, cast our ballot with any party that in any manner or form perpetuates or tolerates by sanction or license this diabolical traffic, a traffic which to day is the greatest evil that the Church of Christ has to contend with, and is annually sending thousands of our fellow mortals to a drunkard's grave. "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that put-

test thy bottle to him and makest him drunken also." The inroads upon the sacredness of the Lord's day by our large corporations compelling men to work on Sunday or lose their position, and the desecration visible on every hand, by rail-road, steamboat, bicycle, carriage and other Sunday excursions and kindred conduct demand the earnest protest of all the Lord's people.

Beloved have I briefly touched upon these special points from the fact that our opponents accuse us for becoming so progressive as to depart from many of the gospel land marks of the fathers of the Church. Is the accusation true? Or is it false? What is our record?

Finally, if we as members of Christ's body will faithfully perpetuate the gospel ordinances and doctrines of the Church and earnestly cry against the evils of the day and honestly abstain from these evils ourselves,

They by the blessings of God our Father and by the grace of Christ our Elder Brother and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit our Comforter, we predict for the future of our beloved brotherhood that the records will be such that when our children will be standing in our place and bearing the mantle that will so soon fall from our shoulders upon theirs, they will in reviewing the records, be able to say with still greater joy, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

#### MR. MOODY'S EXPERIENCE

C. H. WETHERBE

The following record of Mr. Moody's experience, as given by himself, furnishes material for a good deal of reflection: Whenever God has been calling me to higher service there has always been a conflict with my will. I have fought against it, but God's will has been done instead of mine. When I came to Jesus Christ I had a terrible battle to surrender my will and take God's will. When I gave up business I had another terrible battle; for three months I fought against it. It was a terrible battle. But, oh, how many times I have thanked God that I gave up my will and took God's will! Then there was another time when God was calling me to a higher service, to go out and preach the gospel all over the land, instead of staying in Chicago. I fought against it for months, but the best thing I ever did was when I surrendered my will and let the will of God be done in me."

This experience does not harmonize with the statement which some Christians, who have referred to Mr. Moody since his death as being a thorough believer in the same kind of sanctification which they profess to be the subjects of, have made concerning him. If he had been so sanctified that he was free from committing any sin, then he would not have opposed God's will, as he confessed that he did. He did yield his will to God, but, as he said, it was not until he had gone thru "A terrible battle." It is scarcely necessary to say that he who has no carnality in him does not have any kind of

a "battle" with God, in opposition to his will. It is very evident that Christ never had any battle with his Father. Christ was entirely sinless, and hence he never opposed his Father's will. He said that he always did those things which pleased his Father.

Those Christians who say that they are wholly given up to God's will do not know their real selves. They assume an unwarranted knowledge of their own hearts. They are self-deceived. One of the most deceptive things in the world is the human will, even the will of a genuine Christian.

One question which has troubled a host of Christians is, What is God's will in regard to a certain matter? What does God want me to do in relation to a given situation or need or work? And when one has become convinced what his duty is in respect to the matter, it is often very difficult for him to believe that he is capable of performing it rightly; and yet it is always best for one to heed God's calls.

#### FOLLOWING JESUS

A. J. HIXSON

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

How simply Jesus states the matter, and how easily understood were it not for the things that human minds have thrown around it. Following Jesus simply means to follow him. He leads the way. We are to walk in his steps.

Two things requisite are plainly stated in the text quoted at the heading—First, "Let him deny himself." This is one of the great barriers in every one's way. "Self-denial." My way preferable to Jesus' way. Secondly, "Take up his cross." We hear so much said about "cross bearing."

There are many definitions for the cross as used in the scriptures. A very good one is, "Death to all that is evil, life to all that is good." This would not apply to Jesus, for he had no evil to crucify.

Jesus' cross was of a different character. "He that taketh not his cross and followeth after me is not worthy of me," Mat. 10: 38. Hence, to be worthy of Jesus as a follower we must bear the cross. "If any man will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross *daily* and follow me," Luke 9: 23.

To be a Christian is a daily following of Jesus from start to finish. There is a beginning as well as an ending, and in this as well as in every thing else, we must commence the work. No one becomes a proficient in any vocation of life without commencing. He is taught in its intricacies. If he wishes to become a scholar he must get the consent of his mind to begin and then he must be willing to listen to his teacher as well as to work, be willing to do what he is wanted to do. It does seem to me that Providence has so shaped things that for us as a people it ought to be easy to be Christians. Jesus' cross was what he suffered at the hands of the wicked. "He left the glory which he had with the Father" to endure